Country to help handloom weavers to expose their skills and talents in handloom weaving as well as market their products at 20% rebate reimbursable by the State and Central Governments.

2. The Government have also launched a National Design Collection Scheme with a view to identifying and documenting traditional handloom weavers on regional basis so that these could be further developed and marketed through Exhibition-cum-sale by selected State handloom apex societies/Handloom Development Corporations.

3. Government have also been sponsoring participation of various State handloom Apex Societies/Corporations in Trade Fairs. Besides, Government have sponsored a large number of handloom weavers for participation in Craft Melas such as at Surajkund (Haryana), Shilpgram (Udaipur) and at Agra.

4. The Government have instituted a scheme for National Awards and merit Certificates, given by the President of India every year, to renowned handloom weavers in recognition of their outstanding contribution towards preservation/promotion and development of handloom industry in the Country and also with a view to encouraging the handloom weavers to further promote this industry.

Cultivation of cotton crop in Madhya Pradesh

2809. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing acute shortage of cotton and cotton yearn at present;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey in madhya Pradesh to promote the cultivation of the commercial crop of cotton therein; and

(d) if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b): The Cotton Advisory Board has estimated the availability of cotton during the current cotton season 1991-92 at 138.64 lakh bales (inclusive of Opening Stock) against the availability of 150.04 lakh bales (inclusive of Opening Stock) during the cotton season 1990-91. The production of cotton yearn during the period April, 1991 January, 1992 has been estimated at 1212 million Kgs. against the production of 1218 million Kgs. during the corresponding period of the previous year.

(c) and (d) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented in 40 selected districts of 11 cotton growing States including Madhya Pradesh. The objective of the Scheme is to improve the production and productivity of cotton.

Production of Chanderi Sarees in Madhya Pradesh

2810. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Governments are aware that world famous Chanderi Sarees are manufactured by weavers in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite having the export potential and domestic demands, manufacture of Chanderi Sarees on large scale are not being promoted at the Government level in the State; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take so that production of Chanderi Sarees gets a boost on large scale in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Governments at the Centre and the State, both are aware of the potential of Chanderi Sarees and have taken a number of steps to give a boost to this industry.

The production of Chanderi sarees has increased from Rs. 45 lakhs in 1980 to about Rs. 12 crores in the current year. The number of looms producing Chanderi sarees has increased from 929 in 1980 to 2700 now.

(c) With a view to give a boost to the

production of Chanderi Sarees on large scale in Madhya Pradesh, the Central Government and the State Government have already taken up the following steps:

(i) The State Government is running a Handloom Training Centre at Chanderi to provide training to Weavers and give technical assistance in introduction of new designs. During this year, the Centre has provided 310 new designs to weavers.

(ii) The Weavers Service Centres functioning in Indore and Raigarh under the administrative control of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India are playing important role in evolving new designs matching to the requirement of domestic and foreign market.

(iii) The State Government is providing looms and accessories to Weavers at subsidised rate. 1392 number of looms and equipment have been given so far.

(iv) The State agencies like M.P. State Textile Corporation, M.P. Laghu Udyog Nigam and M.P. State Handloom Weavers Cooperative Federation are providing marketing support to Chanderi Industry by arranging sales in their emporia in State and outside the State and also by organising exhibitions.

Expenditure incurred by Chairman and Managing Director, B.I.C.L., Kanpur

2811. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of expenditure on account of travelling and other costs incurred by the Chairman and Managing Director of the British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur during the past 9 months;

(b) whether during the said period the company could not arrange for raw material paticularly for woollen mills for want of funds;

(c) whether legal expenses alongwith the travelling bills connected therewith have registered abnormally high cost compared to the relevant period during the past 3 years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken to order investigations in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) An expenditure of about Rs. 1.47 lakhs was incurred by the British India Corporation Limited on account of travelling and other incidentals for the Chairman and managing Director of the Company during the past 9 months.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Export of Textiles

2812. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the expected export of textiles for the current year and what it is's actual performance;

(b) what was the export of cotton, non-cotton textiles and garments during last two years and ad valorem earnings in terms of dollars and rupees and

(c) whether there is any quota restriction for imports of Indian textiles from European Common market and USA; if so, what are the counter measures undertaken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Against a target of Rs. 11,167 crores for export of textiles and clothing during 1991-92, exports during April 91-January 92 have amounted to Rs. 9169 crores (Provisional).

(b) Export of cotton and non-cotton textiles and garments during the last two